



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREG BELL
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

Technical Analysis and Findings

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

PID: C0150018
TaskID: 4782
Mine Name: DEER CREEK MINE
Title: TRANSFER WELL MONITORING

Summary

The Task ID #4782 to transfer monitoring wells from the Deer Creek mine MRP to the Trail Mountain MRP was previously evaluated as Task ID #4762. The current Task #4782 Transfer Well Monitoring, was submitted by PacifiCorp (the Permittee) to the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (The Division) on January 13, 2015. The previous task evaluated the well transfer, accuracies within the document and tables, and for bonding. The well transfer is not evaluated in this task.

The application meets the minimum requirements of the Coal Mining Rules. The Division recommends approving the proposed amendment.

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General Contents

Reporting of Technical Data

Analysis:

In Task #4782 the Permittee adequately meets the Clear and Concise requirements per R645-301-121. Deficiencies within the prior application included cleaning up the Trail Mountain Water Monitoring Program table by: 1) The UPDES point for Trail Mountain Mine Discharge should be UT-0023728-002 it is currently referenced as UT-0023728-001; and 2) The (*) symbol next to Level Only in the REMARKS column for the six wells being added should be removed if they are not referencing a disclaimer or comment.

In the current Task #4782, the Permittee has corrected the UPDES point number for Mine Discharge, and added the comment the (*) is referencing at the base of the table.

Findings:

The application meets the minimum Clear and Concise requirements per R645-301-121.

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Reclamation Plan

Bonding and Insurance General

Analysis:

In Task #4782 the Permittee adequately addresses the requirements to File a Bond with a Determination of Bond Amount per the Division's rules R645-301-820 and R645-301-830. The deficiency in the prior Task #4762 stated, 'The application does not meet the minimum bonding requirements to File a Bond with a Determination of Bond Amount per the Division's rules R645-301-820 and R645-301-830. A reclamation bond needs to be posted for the five wells to cover the Permanent Casing and Sealing of Wells per R645-301-765'.

In Task #4782 the Permittee addresses this deficiency by showing the bond is held by the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management as BLM Bond No. UT0992. The Permittee developed the wells in 1992 under a federal coal exploration license (UTU-70069) and therefore the Division at the time did not require the Permittee to file a performance bond for reclamation. The Permittee has shown a \$36,000 performance bond is currently in effect to cover reclamation of the wells. The documentation of this bond will be held on file (O:\015009.TMT\BOND) in the Division's database, so the responsible party (the BLM) can be held accountable if reclamation of the wells is needed in the future.

Findings:

The information provided meets the minimum bonding requirements to File a Bond with a Determination of Bond Amount per the Division's rules R645-301-820 and R645-301-830.

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